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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been following and reporting on the Heber Wild Horses in my capacity as a reporter for the White Mountain Independent newspaper since 2018. However, I would like to submit personal comment on the HWHT management plan draft: The document seems well organized with detailed habitat and forage considerations. Fencing, soil, cattle guards, gates, gathers, monitoring and ongoing management methods appear comprehensive and appropriate. My only concern would be the need for an updated horse count completed by USFS employees versus "community volunteers". Utilizing non-employees opens the USFS up to extreme and unnecessary criticism. It is also currently being viewed as a conflict of interest. Thank you, Laura Singleton